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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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AMCONSUL SYDNEY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA

SUBJECT: OECD REVIEW OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND TRADE
POLICY

REF: OECD PARIS 2116

1. THE FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS ON AUSTRALIAN
TRADE POLICY ARE BASED ON SECRETARIAT NOTE TFD/TD/711.
THE AUSTRALIAN REVISION TO THIS NOTE PROMISED FOR EARLY
FEBRUARY HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED.

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A. HOW MUCH INFLUENCE DO MARKETING BOARDS EXERT ON

THE GOA'S POLICY DECISIONS REGARDING THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMODITIES? FOR EXAMPLE, DO MARKETING BOARD OFFICIALS MAKE FORMAL REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF THEIR INDUSTRY DURING TARIFF BOARD HEARINGS OR ENGAGE IN LOBBYIST-TYPE ACTIVITIES?

B. DESCRIBE AUSTRALIA'S METHOD AND TIMETABLE FOR PHASING OUT PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES FOR IMPORTS FROM THE UK.

C. THE GOA ANNOUNCED IN 1973 THAT IT INTENDED TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM AIMED AT REDUCING SUBSIDIES TO RURAL (AGRICULTURAL) INDUSTRIES. ASIDE FROM TERMINATING THE SUBSIDY FOR BUTTER, CHEESE AND CERTAIN FERTILIZERS, WHAT OTHER SUBSIDY SCHEMES AFFECTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

WILL BE CUT BACK OR ELIMINATED AND WHEN?

D. DOES AUSTRALIA HAVE ANY SUPPLY AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES SIMILAR TO THE 1969 AGREEMENT TO SUPPLY CHILE WITH 100,000 METRIC TONS OF AUSTRALIAN WHEAT ANNUALLY?

E. IN WHICH AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS DOES AUSTRALIA CURRENTLY MAINTAIN "LOCAL CONTENT" REQUIREMENTS? HOW ARE THESE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED?

F. TO WHAT EXTENT HAS AUSTRALIA USED THE REVOCATION OF "BY-LAW" TARIFF RATES AS A TOOL TO ENCOURAGE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION IN RECENT YEARS?

G. WHAT IS THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME FOR WHICH TEMPORARY PROTECTION MEASURES HAVE BEEN IMPOSED IN RECENT YEARS? HOW MUCH TRADE HAS BEEN INVOLVED?

H. TO WHAT EXTENT HAS AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT FROM ABROAD ACTUALLY RESULTED IN OFFSET REQUIREMENTS? WHAT PROPORTION OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT IS IMPORTED?

I. WHAT IS THE RELATIVE AMOUNT OF TRADE BENEFITTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM PREFERENCES UNDER THE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH CANADA AND MALAYSIA?

J. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE LONG TERM TARIFF REVIEW BEGUN IN 1971 AND THE SPECIAL 1000 ITEM REVIEW BEGUN IN 1972? ON WHAT AMOUNT OF TRADE HAVE TARIFFS BEEN REDUCED AS A RESULT OF THESE REVIEWS?

K. WILL A LIST OF ADDITIONS TO SCHEDULE A OF THE NAFTA BE PROPOSED IN 1974?

2. FOLLOWING ARE U.S. SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS TO BE COVERED BY EVENTUAL SECRETARIAT INFORMATION NOTE ON NEW ZEALAND TRADE POLICY, WHICH MAY BE USEFUL TO SECRETARIAT IN INITIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH GNZ IN MARCH.

A. DESCRIBE THE NEW ZEALAND SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE/

B. DISCUSS NEW ZEALAND PLANS TO REDUCE EXCESSIVE PROTECTION OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

C. DESCRIBE THE REVISIONS IN THE NEW ZEALAND TARIFF SCHEDULE UNDERTAKEN RECENTLY, INCLUDING THE NEW SCHEDULE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1974.

D. DESCRIBE NEW ZEALAND'S IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM AND GNZ PLANS, IF ANY, TO LIBERALIZE IT.

E. DESCRIBE THE NEW ZEALAND LDC PREFERENCE SCHEME.

F. DESCRIBE NEW ZEALAND'S PROCEDURES FOR INCREASING TARIFFS UPON APPLICATION BY DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

G. ENUMERATE AND DESCRIBE SUBSIDY PROGRAMS WHICH AFFECT EXPORTS AND OTHER EXPORT INCENTIVES SUCH AS TAX BENEFITS AND MARKETING AIDS AND ALLOWANCES.

H. DISCUSS NEW ZEALAND'S TRADE POLICY WITH REGARD TO TOBACCO IMPORTS, ANY PROPOSED CHANGES IN THESE IMPORT REGULATIONS (PARTICULARLY THE MIXING REGULATION), AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE REASONS BEHIND ANY PROPOSED CHANGES.

I. DESCRIBE NEW ZEALAND'S PREFERENTIAL AND NON-PREFERENTIAL BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES ENABLING THEM TO BUY NEW ZEALAND GOODS.

J. ENUMERATE AND DISCUSS THE FUNCTIONS OF NEW ZEALAND'S COMMODITY BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND AUTHORITIES, AND THEIR EFFECT ON NEW ZEALAND'S IMPORT AND EXPORT POLICIES.

K. DESCRIBE PROGRESS UNDER THE NEW ZEALAND-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO GIVE A TARGET DATE BY WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY ALL TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE INCLUDED IN SCHEDULE A (THE LIST

OF CONCESSIONS).

L. REVIEW HEALTH AND SANITARY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING THEIR JUSTIFICATIONS.

M. DESCRIBE ANY TRADE POLICY MEASURES WHICH NEW ZEALAND MAY BE TAKING IN ORDER TO ADJUST TO GREATLY INCREASED COST OF ENERGY RESOURCES.

N. DESCRIBE NEW ZEALAND INVESTMENT POLICIES WHICH MAY AFFECT TRADE, INCLUDING ANY LOCAL CONTENT REQUIREMENTS WHICH MAY EXIST.

3. ACTION FOR WELLINGTON, CANBERRA, SYDNEY: PLEASE SEE THAT THE FOREGOING OECD INFORMATION IS RELAYED TO ERHART POINCILIT, WHO WE UNDERSTAND DEPARTS WELLINGTON FOR SYDNEY ON ROUTE TO CANBERRA MARCH 9. KISSINGER

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